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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 31, 1980 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 26 totaled an estimated 17.2 billion ton-miles, 2.7 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 30 weeks of 1980 was an estimated 527 billion ton-miles, 2.5 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 26 totaled 421,762 cars, 9.9 percent below 1979, and 4.5 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 18.0 percent in the East, 4.9 percent in the South, and 7.1 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1979, 18 of the 21 commodity groups declined. However, coal loadings increased by 9,857 cars or 9.8 percent, and grain posted a gain of 1,456 cars or 4.6 percent. Sixteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback revenue freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 19 totaled 28,901 cars, down 17.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1979, and 54,044 trailers and/or containers, 12.5 percent lower than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 29 weeks of the year was 932,705 cars, 10.1 percent lower than last year, and 1,697,657 trailers and/or containers, down 7.4 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/26/80.

	Loadings in Week ended July 26, 1980	Change from Corresponding Week 1979		Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars	Cars	Percent	Cars	Percent
Grain	32,845	I 1,456	4.6	I 199	0.6
Other farm products	4,621	I 905	24.4	I 224	5.1
Metallic ores	27,990	D 11,165	28.5	D 1,429	4.9
Coal	110,796	I 9,857	9.8	I 13,560	14.0
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,843	D 4,983	25.1	I 562	3.9
Nonmetallic minerals	15,095	D 781	4.9	D 1,139	7.0
Grain mill products	17,093	D 1,259	6.9	I 609	3.7
Food and kindred products	17,098	D 590	3.3	D 141	0.8
Primary forest products	19,776	D 29	0.1	D 179	0.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,936	D 3,825	30.0	I 430	5.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	19,818	D 2,266	10.3	I 716	3.7
Chemicals and allied products	24,122	D 2,067	7.9	I 659	2.8
Petroleum products	5,479	D 698	11.3	I 179	3.4
Stone, clay and glass products	15,349	D 3,960	20.5	I 562	3.8
Coke	4,343	D 2,999	40.8	I 245	6.0
Metals and products	13,517	D 6,017	30.8	I 1,104	8.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	11,176	D 4,407	28.3	D 410	3.5
Waste and scrap materials	9,590	D 4,781	33.3	I 23	0.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	10,039	D 2,342	18.9	I 652	6.9
All other carloads	39,042	D 6,300	13.9	I 1,783	4.8
LCL traffic	194	D 306	61.2	I 52	36.6
Total Cars Loaded	421,762	D 46,557	9.9	I 18,261	4.5
Corresponding week of 1979	468,319				

	1980	1979	%	Change
Total Cars Loaded (30 weeks)	13,029,058	13,637,900	D	4.5
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):				
29 weeks cumulative	510.0	496.8	I	2.7
Week ended July 26	17.2	17.7	D	2.7
30 weeks cumulative	527.2	514.5	I	2.5

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